REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 23-38 are in the case. The abstract is herein amended in accordance with the U.S. practice. Claims 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 are herein amended for editorial purposes as well as to eliminate multiple dependency. Claims 5 and 8-22 are herein cancelled. New claims 24-38 correspond to cancelled claims 8-22, respectively, but are presented as method claims. No new matter has been introduced.

Consideration of the present application in view of the above amendments is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

By _____

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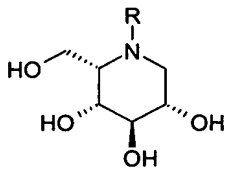
Attachment: A replacement Abstract.

ABSTRACT

~~PIPERIDINE DERIVATIVES AS GCS INHIBITORS~~

~~Compounds of formula (I):~~ The present invention provides novel piperidine derivatives of formula (I),



(I)

wherein R represents a substituted benzyl group, which are useful as inhibitors of glucosylceramide synthase (GCS). The compounds of the Invention are useful for treating various glycolipid storage diseases, such as Gaucher's disease, Sandhoff's disease, Tay-Schs disease, Fabry disease, and GM1 gangliosidosis; glycolipid accumulation disorders, such as Niemann-Pick disease, mucopolysaccharidoses, mucolipidosis type IV and α-mannosidosis; various cancers that involve abnormal glycolipid synthesis; and various infectious diseases that involve cell surface glycolipids as receptors for the infectious organisms or for their toxins; as well as a variety of other disorders involving glycolipid synthesis, including neuronal disorders, inflammatory diseases, obesity, and the like.